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## **Ohio Art League Member Curated Exhibition** *Art as Contemporary Folklore*

**July 30, 2014 - COLUMBUS, OHIO** - Ohio Art League has partnered with the Columbus College of Art & Design (CCAD) to bring the Member Curated Exhibition, “Art as Contemporary Folklore,” to the public this July and August. Maria DiFranco has created new works inspired by distinct cultures to symbolize contemporary subject matter. This exhibition explores traditional imagery, mythology, folklore and allegory to describe the various aspects that shape our cultures.

“Art as Contemporary Folklore” opened July 16, 2014 in the Acock Gallery, Canzani Center, second floor at the Columbus College of Art & Design, 60 Cleveland Ave, 614-224-9101. Acock Gallery hours of operation are Tuesday-Friday 10 am – 7 pm., Saturday & Sunday noon – 6 pm.

The public is invited to attend the closing reception at no charge on Saturday, Aug. 30 from 6 – 8 pm.

### **About the Artist: Maria DiFranco**

Maria DiFranco is currently a Graduate Teaching Associate and MFA candidate at The Ohio State University. DiFranco grew up in Westlake Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland. Always having an interest in history and art, DiFranco attended Rhode Island School of Design for her undergraduate degree where she earned a BFA in printmaking. She continued to live in Providence, Rhode Island for the next several years teaching and exhibiting her artwork. DiFranco has received several awards and recognitions.

### **About the Curator: Lillianna Marie**

Lillianna Marie is a visual artist who was born in Connecticut, but has also lived in Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Italy and Senegal. She earned a B.Sc. in coastal science, and B.A. in visual & linguistic studies, from the University of Connecticut in 2008. Additionally, Marie has studied photography at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, at Yale University, and is presently pursuing her MFA at The Ohio State University. Her photographs and digital videos explore multi-variable relationships, and the intersections of science and art.

### **About Columbus College of Art & Design**

Columbus College of Art & Design, founded in 1879, is one of the oldest and largest private art and design colleges in the United States with 1,300 undergraduate and graduate students. CCAD offers bachelor and master degrees in the Fine Arts. Undergraduate students choose from nine majors: photography, industrial design, advertising and graphic design, animation, illustration, fine arts, fashion design, interior design and cinematic arts.

### **About Ohio Art League**

The Ohio Art League is an innovative leader in Ohio for supporting visual artists during all stages of their careers. OAL connects member artists to patrons of the arts, the community, and exhibit and studio spaces. Through professional development, mentorship and advocacy, OAL works strategically to help Ohio cultivate and retain top visual art talent while positioning the state as a hub for the visual arts.

Opportunities to curate and show art in OAL's member curated exhibitions are open exclusively to members. To learn more or become a member, please visit [OAL.org](http://OAL.org).

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